

Remarks

Claims 7-21 are pending in this application. In the office action, the examiner objected to claims 9-15 as including claim terms that lack antecedent basis. The examiner also rejected claims 1-5, 9-11, and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,714,429 to Phadke. The examiner indicated that claims 6-8, 12-15, 19, and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and amended to overcome the examiner's objection concerning the lack of antecedent basis of some claim terms.

Claims 1-6 have been cancelled, and all of the claim limitations of claims 1-6 have been incorporated into new claim 21. Claims 7 and 8 have been amended to depend from claim 20. Applicants submit that claims 21, 7, and 8 constitute allowable subject matter and are in condition for allowance.

The limitations of claim 12 has been incorporated into claim 9. Claim 9 now constitutes allowable subject matter is condition for allowance. Claims 10, 11, and 13-15 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 9 and therefore constitute allowable subject matter and are in condition for allowance. Claim 9 has been objected to correct the lack of antecedent basis.

The limitations of claims 18 and 19 have been incorporated into claim 16. Claims 17 and 20 depend from claim 16. Applicants submit that claims 16, 17, and 20 constitute allowable subject matter and are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 21, 7-11, 13-17 and 20 should be withdrawn and that these claims should be passed to issuance.

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